

Henry Coleman, Sr. was born May 5, 1836 in Sherrington, Buckinghamshire, England, the son of George and Elizabeth Bailey Coleman. He married Mary Jane Threlkeld on November 30, 1860, in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City by Bishop Brinton. He died December 25, 1867, in Midway.

Mary Jane Threlkeld Coleman McCarrell was born May 15, 1842, at Carlisle, Cumberland, England, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Barker Threlkeld. She married Henry Coleman November 30, 1860, in Salt Lake City. She married Joseph McCarrell in 1873 in Midway. She died January 26, 1916, in Heber, and was buried in Midway.

Henry was the oldest son of his parents, who, with their family, had been converted to the Mormon Church. Henry was the first to come to Utah. He arrived in 1850 when he was only fourteen years of age. He came alone, his parents and the rest of the family remaining in England until later. He came across the ocean and to Utah with the Samuel Claridge Company. Upon reaching Utah, he made his home with Bishop David Brinton in Big Cottonwood, Salt Lake County.

Henry made several trips back across the plains to meet emigrants enroute to Utah. While on one of these trips he met a beautiful young English girl, Mary Jane Threlkeld. They fell in love and were married.

Young Henry was in the employment of Mr. William Howard of Cottonwood, Salt Lake County. While earning money he kept in mind that he would help his family come to Zion. In 1862 he sent passage money for his brothers William and Louis. The three brothers worked together putting part of their earnings in the emigration fund handled by the Church. By 1864 they, with what their parents had saved, had enough to bring the entire family to Utah.

Henry and Mr. Howard continued to work together. They made several business deals, one of which culminated in the purchase by Henry of a farm in Midway, which was held by his family until 1958. A saw-mill on the farm was part of the purchase. He operated a store in connection with the mill. He developed a thriving lumber business. He and his wife spent their winters in Big Cottonwood, where he had acquired some property. Three of their four children were born in Big Cottonwood.

Henry died at a very early age. Shortly before his fourth child was born, he was

stricken with what they called brain fever. After only two days' illness, he died on Christmas Day at the age of thirty-one. The community, shocked and grieved by his death, cancelled all holiday celebrations. He was the first adult buried in the Midway Cemetery.

Henry was one of the promising young men of the valley. He was resourceful, honest, intelligent; his probity was unquestioned. He never had a picture of himself. It was said by those who remembered him that he was very good looking; he had brown hair and exceptionally beautiful blue eyes. He was a kind and generous gentleman.

Mary Jane Threlkeld spent her early life in England. She had a good education, was a talented singer and seamstress even as a young girl. She often told of the strict rules followed by her family members. Her father was meticulous in his dress. He changed his shirt front twice a day and his shoes were shined to a king's taste. The children ate at the same table with their parents only on occasion. However, they were a happy family. Mary Jane remembered seeing Queen Victoria, and also a public hanging in England.

Some members of the family joined the Mormon Church in England. Mr. and Mrs. Threlkeld and part of their family came to America. Mr. Threlkeld, a man of considerable means, was disappointed with the situation here and decided to return to England. Two of his daughters, Margaret and Mary Jane, did not want to go back. They went to the home of friends who kept them hidden until the family had left. They never saw their parents again. The two girls came to Utah in 1860 in the Francis Brown Company. Margaret had become engaged to Joel Johnson and married him upon their arrival in Utah. They settled in Southern Utah.

During the trip across the plains, Patrick Carroll and his wife Margaret were especially kind to the Threlkeld sisters. Mary Jane married Henry Coleman. She was widowed while pregnant with her fourth child. George and Margaret Bonner, Robert and Betty Ross, Robert and Maggie Cunningham, Attewall and Cynthia Wootton, and others befriended her during her widowhood.

Five years after the death of her husband, she married Joseph McCarrell, a widower with seven children. She and Joseph had five more children. In order to retain the

dignity of an independent house and help care for so many children, Mary Jane took in sewing. She was an accomplished dressmaker, tailor and milliner. She trained her daughters to help with the sewing, and they in turn became efficient, capable and competent in their own right. Mary Jane appreciated fine and lovely things; she prospered in her dressmaking and millinery establishment.

She was an ardent Church worker. For many years she was first counselor to Cynthia Wootton in the Relief Society. She had charge of the making of burial clothes. She always sang in the choir. She helped raise a granddaughter, Lenore Baum. She died a highly respected and beloved woman. Her parents in England remained faithful to the Church. Her brother, John, came to Utah and settled in Salt Lake City.

Children of Henry and Mary Jane Threlkeld Coleman:

Mrs. Charles Alonzo (Elizabeth Barker) Epperson;

Henry Threlkeld married Emily Matilda Springer;

Mrs. Francis (Lucretia Howard) Greenwell;

Mrs. (Doctor) Alexander (Margaret Euphremia) McKendry.

The children of Joseph McCarrell and Mary Jane Threlkeld Coleman:

Heber John died in infancy;

Mrs. James (Catherine Alice) Taylor, later married John Bee;

Mrs. Frank (Hester Elenore) Baum, later married Byran Rector;

Joseph Ernest married Cora Hiner;

George Theodore married Verla Mae McNaughton.

HENRY COLEMAN, SR. AND
MARY JANE THRELKELD
COLEMAN MCCARRELL



GEORGE A. AND LUCY SMITH WHITTAKER DAVIS

George A. Davis, son of Albert Wesley Davis and Melissa Jane Lambson, born July 7, 1877, in Salt Lake City. Died November 28, 1939.

Lucy Smith Whittaker, daughter of David Moroni Whittaker and Mary Ann Smith, born January 5, 1885, in Salt Lake City. Died February 6, 1927.

Their early youth was spent in Salt Lake City. They attended schools there. He also attended the LDS College.

Having worked in the Church, on March 15, 1899 George was ordained an Elder, in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, by Joseph F. Smith, and on December 10, 1899, he left for a mission to the Hawaiian Islands. While out on this work, the City of Honolulu was quarantined for Bubonic Plague, and he was called to go on guard line to guard the city to see that no one left. He was appointed a special police officer for three months and ten days until the close of the quarantine. From this work he was called back to mission headquarters, and given other duties. He was appointed over-seer of the Laie Plantation from April 15, 1901, to April 6, 1903, when he was released and appointed to preside over the Hilo, Hamakua, and Kohala conferences until August 14, 1903. He was released from his mission and returned home September 11, 1903.

On January 27, 1904, he was called to the Stake Mission for the Salt Lake Stake, and was set apart to this work by Joseph E. Taylor.

Upon arriving home from his mission he worked on the farm owned by his father. He started going with Lucy Smith Whittaker

MIDWAY BIOGRAPHIES

and they were married February 4, 1904, in the Salt Lake Temple. He continued in the farming, and they were both active in Church work.

The Davis family moved to Midway, May 6, 1916, purchasing the Maria Schoney Mitchell home in Stringtown where they lived until the death of their oldest son, George, in 1924. At that time they returned to Salt Lake.

George was active in civic and church affairs. He had a fine herd of Jersey dairy cows, and sold milk and cream to the Mutual Creamery Company. He was a director and president of the Citizen's Mercantile Co., a member of the Midway Town Board, a member of the Amusement Board of Midway and a member of the Genealogical Society of Midway.

In Church affairs he was a teacher and chorister of the Midway Second Ward and then served as second counselor to Bishop Jacob Probst in the Second Ward. He was also a leader in the High Priests group and the parent teacher in the Sunday School. He sang and preached at many funerals.

Mrs. Davis worked in the Primary, the Relief Society and the MIA of the Second Ward, and was known as a gentle, patient, sympathetic woman. Though she was partially blind she never complained, and always had a cheerful smile for everyone. She was particularly noted for her flower gardens.

Children of George and Lucy Davis included:

David Moroni, married Coralyn Adamson and had three daughters:

Willard Wendell, married Allanson B. McKean and had three sons.

Lucile Davis, married to Charles Frank Parker, two children;

Albert Fielding Davis, married Fay Hepworth, had one child;

Nina Mary Davis, married to Ray Fred Kohler, had two children.